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GASTONIA, THE SOUTH'S CITY OF SPINDLES.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1920.

INFLATED LAND VALUES ADD TO SOCIAL UNREST

Speculation and reckless inflation of land values has been much in evidence during the last year or two, and unless this movement is checked it will result in conditions which are highly detrimental, not only to the farming interests of the country, but to our entire economic structure. If farm lands are permitted to attain to speculative market prices in excess of their actual value, based upon use and productivity, it becomes relatively impossible for the landless farmer to acquire a farm of his own. Furthermore, to the extent that renters purchase farms at prices which are disproportionate to their actual value, such purchases are almost certain to result in a large percentage of foreclosures. It is perhaps needless to point out that foreclosures, involving as they do, the loss of all or a large part of the capital which hard-working citizens have accumulated by years of toil, will tend to aggravate social unrest and add strength to forces that are inimical to the orderly progress of society.—Sec. of Agr. E. T. Meredith.

GYPSY SMITH.

Gypsy Smith, Jr., who leaves Gastonia today after a two weeks stay in the city, leaves with the good wishes and benedictions of the entire community. His stay with us has been altogether too short. We would have had his winsome, magnetic personality longer if circumstances had permitted.

No man who has been in Gastonia in recent years has had the drawing power that is possessed by this man. He is an attractive, forceful speaker. Throughout all his sermons, his wonderful personality stands out supreme.

The evangelist confessed to a feeling of disappointment in one of his latter sermons that the people of Gastonia had failed to respond as he had hoped. However this may have been, the outpouring of the multitudes on Sunday to hear him gave evidence that the people are interested. The service Sunday night was scheduled to begin at 7:30. As early as 6 o'clock the church auditorium was filled, at 6:30 nearly every available seat was taken and many were turned away. It was a tribute that is seldom accorded any speaker, political or religious.

Mr. Smith's visit to Gastonia has been a blessing and the prayers and gratitude of many Gastonians go with him wherever he goes.

PUT YOUR COTTON UNDER COVER.

A series of experiments to determine how baled cotton is affected by weather was recently conducted by the Bureau of Markets, United States Department of Agriculture, at Jefferson, Ga. In one instance a bale of cotton placed out in the open, flat on the ground, with no covering, was damaged to the extent of 370 pounds at the end of eight months. Another bale placed on edge with no further attention lost 167 pounds. A bale on edge and turned over once a week lost 110 pounds. A bale placed on timber off the ground and turned once a week lost 49 pounds, and a bale placed on timbers and covered with tarpaulin lost but 14 pounds. A warehouse bale of cotton during the same period lost only one pound.

Other tests have been conducted that corroborate these results and prove that the ideal conditions under which cotton may be held by growers before marketing are afforded by properly constructed, adequately operated, bonded warehouses.

With an enormous over-supply of low-grade cotton in the South at the present time, the necessity for protecting the crop from weather, fire, and other loss is greater than ever before, say specialists of the Bureau of Markets. The po-

tential weather damage and other risks to which exposed cotton is subject increase in direct proportion as the time that cotton remains in the hands of the growers lengthens, and if the cotton growers are not to lose millions of dollars every safeguard against loss must be employed. In weather damage alone it has been estimated that in normal times \$70,000,000 worth of baled cotton is lost annually as a result of permitting cotton to remain exposed for months at a time without covering or attention of any kind.

NEW YORK EARNINGS DOUBLE.

Average earnings in New York's representative trades in September, 1920, were double what they were six years ago, and generally, \$2 a week higher than they were a year ago, according to a report prepared by the Industrial Bureau of the Merchants' Association. The report declares that, while the city's industrial activity has receded somewhat from the high water mark established during the war, there is no indication of a general slump in manufacturing.

Charts giving the average weekly earnings of workmen, combining both office and shop employes, for September, 1914, 1919, and 1920, show, for the above named years respectively:

Stone, clay and glass products: \$13.96; \$26.58, \$35.11. Metals, machinery and conveyances, \$14.58, \$27.21, \$30.67. Wood manufacturers, \$12.49, \$24.26, \$28.42. Fur, leather and rubber goods: \$11.77, \$27.09, \$26.43. Chemicals, oils and paints: \$13.67, \$24.79, \$27.09. Printing and paper goods: \$15.58, \$27.36, \$31.38. Textiles: \$9.72, \$21.03, \$24.79. Clothing, millinery, laundry, etc.: \$12.40, \$27.68, \$26.46. Food, liquors and tobacco: \$11.60, \$23.40, \$26.04. Water, light and power: \$15.79, \$30.91, \$35.59.

The general average of these industries for the three years runs: \$13.06, \$26.17 and \$28.44.

COTTON MILL CLOSING.

The cotton mills of the country are showing the farmers how to reduce acreage.

When the mills find that they are stocked up with goods and the demand for goods is weak to the point in most cases of having no life at all, they do the sensible thing from a business standpoint, they begin to reduce their output.

Every cotton mill has regard for its employes and wants to hold its working organization intact. Local mills and other mills are slowly and carefully doing all they can to handle a delicate situation. If the trade will not buy the manufactured goods, how can the mills keep on making cloth? They cannot. There must be a revival of buying.

The farmers talk. They hold meetings. They pass resolutions and then go on planting every available square yard on the farm in cotton. Then they wonder why the price does not go up to fifty cents the pound.

Each farmer has his own salvation to work out and he must get down to it. Regardless of price after Christmas he should reduce his cotton acreage and plant more food crops. Even now with oats at very, very low prices, not much grain has been sown.

If you had plenty of food stuff on hand now, would it not be easier to hold cotton than it is?

Take a lesson from the cotton mills. They are run on sound business principles. Farmers could profit by their example.—Greenwood Index.

THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER.

New York World.

On Armistice day a British soldier, one of those buried unidentified on the field of honor and sacrifice, was reinterred among the great of centuries. On the same day the body of one of the nameless heroes who made good at Verdun with his life the pledge, "They shall not pass," was brought to Paris in a special train and similarly reburied, that his grave may be forever in the City of Light a shrine of patriotism.

When Collins wrote his matchless ode, "How sleep the brave," he had no recent heroisms to record save those of Colleen against Scots or Fontenoy against Frenchmen. In a better cause, "Freedom shall awhile repair" to the Abbey grave of an unknown soldier who fought side by side with Scots and Frenchmen that there should be an end of war lords. Nor has the lofty mausoleum that Paris calls simply "The Tomb"—that of Napoleon—such austere beauty of significance as will surround the later sepulchre of an unnamed Frenchman.

The unknown soldier is of every land and race. He is the American who swore to a residence in Canada to enlist. He is a Brazilian who went to fight for France. He is the Pole or Czech or Alsatian who slipped across the frontier to take up eager arms against the tyrant. He is the volunteer Greek of Venizelos, the Gurkha from the East, the New Zealand Maori, the American Indian. A plain man and lowly, he died to make the world better for plain people like himself and his loved ones. It is well that a shrine shall be reared in his memory. Better yet will it be if the statesmen of the world do not forget the end for which he paid so dear.

The wheat farmer is glad cotton is coming down, and the cotton farmer is glad wheat is coming down.—San Diego Tribune.

ASSEMBLY TOUCHES ON POSSIBILITY AMERICAN AID FOR ARMENIANS

(By The Associated Press.)

GENEVA, Nov. 22.—The possibility of American aid for the Armenians was touched upon in debate today by the assembly of the league of nations on resolutions demanding intervention by the league in Armenia.

Supporting Lord Robert Cecil's demand that the assembly appoint a committee to examine into means for ending the hostilities between the Turkish nationalists and the Armenians, M. Spalokjovitch, of the Serbian delegation, recalled that the United States senate at one time had approved the use of the American fleet to secure the Armenians. It was recalled here in this connection that Senator Harding was the senator who reported the resolution. (A resolution requiring the president to send Marines to Batum was adopted by the senate May 12, last. It was offered by Senator Harding on behalf of the foreign relations committee.)

A. J. Balfour, of Great Britain, speaking on the resolution, said that if the United States had been willing to take the money and spirit to make her aid mandatory. The league had been unable to accomplish anything with regard to the Armenian situation, Mr. Balfour admitted, because the condition of Armenia, he argued, was not such that the league was organized to deal with.

Mr. Balfour says an appeal must be sent to the 41 states of the league for a united effort to save Armenia.

Rene Viviani, of France, following Mr. Balfour, said all were agreed that compulsion would no longer suffice for Armenia.

"It is not the fault of France if the league today is disarmed before the situation in Armenia is righted," said M. Viviani. Virtually the entire assembly applauded this statement. It was not, however, that the British delegation did not applaud.

"If the conference had listened to France," continued M. Viviani, "we would have had an international staff and an international force to deal with this situation."

M. Viviani presented a resolution inviting the council of the league to consult the powers with a view to the constitution of a force sufficient to put an end to the hostilities in Armenia.

Dr. Preif Nansen, of Norway, estimated that 60,000 men would be a force sufficient to deal with the situation. He thought that if the assembly appealed to the whole world, the United States, although it had refused the mandate, would do its share.

MERCHANT THE GOAT—PROFITEERS PROSPER.

This newspaper through its daily business relations with the local merchants has had perhaps as good an opportunity to study how commercial conditions affect the merchants as any source for securing information.

In beginning we do not wish to say that all merchants have been free from profiteering during the days when the finger of accusation was pointed at most every one and everything. We really believe and feel that some few merchants did take undue advantage of the public. However it is equally as unjust to make a blanket charge against the merchants as a whole. The mere fact that we find our best citizens among our merchants is enough to dispel any such idea as this if such idea ever prevailed.

But what we started out to say was that the merchant during the entire period of profiteering charges was being made the goat. The merchant is today being made the goat and this fact is very evident to the man or person who will investigate.

During the war the government allowed the manufacturers to make profits, world without end. Just so long as those profits were partially divided with the government it was all right.

The merchant was ridden, gagged and accused of making too much profit on everything he handled from 10 cent sugar to a yard of calico.

The merchant was the shock absorber that had to meet the public and take the jar out of the high prices that in most instances had been created by the manufacturers who were mopping up.

If a merchant made over two cents on a pound of sugar he was held up as a criminal. If he had made over a stipulated profit on calico he was subjected to trouble. No such restrictions were placed on the manufacturer.

The manufacturer has unloaded his wares. The merchant has bought his fall and winter stocks and he purchased these from the manufacturers when prices were at their peak.

Now that the merchant has these goods in stock the manufacturers are announcing great reduction cuts. The public swallow the bait. The public demand to be shown and the merchant must meet those reductions or else he can't sell his goods.

You can't blame the merchant for holding his prices up. We would all do the same. It is asking a good deal to ask that a man sell an article for sixty cents that has cost him a dollar and that is what the merchant is having to do today.

If the manufacturers had been so solicitous of the public's welfare they should have announced several months ago that reductions would be made in prices and the merchants could have waited and taken advantage of these reductions and then passed them on to the public at a like reduction.

The charge has been made and it looks about right to us that the manufacturers are announcing these big reductions in order to force the merchants to unload at great sacrifices so that they can load

FOUR STIRRING SERMONS

(Continued from page 1)

ing, because of her life,—they wouldn't associate with her. She had to go alone, and when the sun was well up, and it was no easy thing to walk four miles to and from the old well of Jacob; but here she is. She has a talk with Christ, then leaves her water-pot, and rushes back to the city, and the first person that she meets is a man. Can you imagine a woman of this character living in this city and of her stopping some man on the street and speaking to him about Jesus Christ and his soul's salvation? Do you think he would take any stock in anything that she said? I don't think so. But the best of this woman speaks to doesn't laugh sneeringly at her, or make a cheap remark, but immediately follows her to Jesus Christ. There is only one explanation for it, and that is that she was a changed woman. Somebody else had moved into her life, somebody else was gripping with her hands, throbbing with her heart, speaking with her lips. It was Christ that was with her, and if you and I are going to reach our friends and loved ones for Jesus Christ, we shall have to have this face to face, heart to heart talk with Jesus Christ.

I am speaking to you about the secret of power. It always comes in the wake of a surrender, but our surrender must be voluntary,—not because I want it, or because the scene is strange, or because there is a thrill in the air, or because this service is rather unusual, but because you know in your own heart that you are not the man and woman you ought or want to be, because you realize your own weakness, and want to step out of the place of weakness and into the place of power.

Secondly, it must be unselfish. No man can map out his own life. It must be God's will, and we must take our hands off.

Thirdly, it must be irrevocable. No man can rob God and win out. You say, "Will a man rob God?" Yes, much quicker than rob his neighbor.

And, lastly, it must be complete. To give Him ninety-nine parts and withhold one is to stin in the way of blessing. Will you make Him first; first before you arrange another social; first before you prepare another lesson? I know something finer than making a great deal of money and leaving it behind for children to fight over. It is to live so close to Jesus Christ that some day when you are gone your boy or girl will go out to the cemetery where you lie, and, putting some flowers on the grave with one hand, will wipe away tears with the other, and say, "There lies father or mother, and they lived closer to Jesus Christ than any other man or woman I ever knew." Such a life will make it hard for a boy or girl to do wrong, and easy for them to do right. Make Him first.

THE SUNNY SIDE. Robert Quillen, noted paragrapher and author of "Small Town Stuff" now appearing in the Saturday Evening Post, will contribute a daily column of paragraphs for The Gazette. The Gazette, believe this department will be thoroughly enjoyed by its readers.

(Copyright 1920, Associate Editors.) By ROBERT QUILLEN.

John Barleycorn to Scotland: Et tu?

White might be able to get a job predicting victories for Wrangel.

The American people will never warm up to a low villain or a highbrow.

And now Mr. Harding must glance through Bradstreet's and select some Ambassadors.

Illinois will have a Governor Small. A great many states have had small Governors.

Martyrdom may achieve a purpose, but



in the present imperfect state of humanity a club is more effective.

The usual cold waves were no doubt waiting until the tidal wave got off the front pages.

In time party leaders will learn that a house divided against itself cannot stand the gaff.

A lot of these fellows who go up to hunt in the Canadian woods never get far from mahogany.

One judges from foreign press comment that America wasn't the only country eager for a change.

And the friction between an insurance

policy and falling prices causes a number of mercantile fires.

If a primary teacher can't teach a child anything, it is because she didn't begin with its grandparents.

Concerning League revision, France is willing to concede any point except the one that jabs Heine.

Every time the political bee employes



its sting, the world loses another good laborer.

Jugal is the obsolete form of conjugal. The "con" was prefixed to give point to the expression, "conjugal bliss."

Doubtless you have observed that the man who is good at nothing else is a formidable opponent in an argument.

The reason a politician can't hear the voice of the people after his election is because he thinks himself the big noise.

Spending the next four months dodging job hunters will probably make Mr. Harding wish he did believe in one-man government.

The question is, when the league is taken out of the treaty will there be enough of the patient left to justify sewing up!

A Boston convict refused to talk for a long time and lost the power of speech. There, Mr. Bryan, let that be a warning to you.

GASTONIAN. All pictures shown in the Gastonia Theater are personally selected by the manager, you are therefore assured of a good show when you visit the Gastonian. TODAY and TOMORROW MARSHALL NEILAN Director of "The Rivers End," "Daddy Long Legs," "In Old Kentucky," and other Famous successes, Presents A MATRIMONIAL MIRTHQUAKE "DON'T EVER MARRY" Starring MATT MOORE and MARJORIE DAW From Edgar Franklin's Humorous Story. Oh, it is a hor-ri-ble tale, it'll make your faces all turn pale. A feller loves a gal an' she loves he but her dad won't have him in the familee. So the feller an' the gal they git right smart an' her pa kicks the feller in—you know the part—an another gal an feller gits all mixed in an' another female with a reputashun black as sin. Oh, it is a horrible tale, a horrible tale is it. Prospective Brides and Bridegrooms especially urged to see this one. WEDNESDAY MARY MILES MINTER IN "SWEET LAVENDER" From the Play by Sir Arthur Wing Pinero. Added Attraction: The Anti Tuberculosis Society and the Local Red Cross Presents A SPECIAL HEALTH PICTURE This Picture is very interesting as well as Educational. SPECIAL MATINEE WILL BE GIVEN FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL SCHOOL CHILDREN FROM 3 to 5 P. M. All School Children will be admitted for 10c regardless of their age, this price will be from 3 to 5 P. M. only. THURSDAY and FRIDAY CHARLES RAY In His Latest Paramount Picture "A VILLAGE SLEUTH" A Good Comedy. COTTON INSURANCE We are prepared to insure your cotton anywhere in the county, either in the seed or in bales. If you are going to hold your cotton for higher prices it will pay you to have same insured against fire before it is too late. See us when you need anything in Insurance. REAL ESTATE FOR SALE We have several dwellings in various sections of the city at prices ranging from \$3,000 up. See our list of offerings before you buy. Everything handled strictly on commission basis. R. S. DICKSON & COMPANY 228 W Main Ave Phone 75 Long Distance 9913